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border land between China and India, across which the caravans for ages have passed between those two countries. In former times and in the days of the commercial prosperity of Venice, and before ships went to India by the Cape of Good Hope, all Chinese goods that were imported into Europe were carried by caravans through the passes of the Himalaya mountains across the frontier into India, and these caravans follow the same route at the present day for the supply of Nepal. I have seen drawings of these caravans and the passes through the mountains in the Chinese magistrates' office at Shanghai. Our travellers from India endeavour to pass into Tibet by the route across the Himalayas; but I think the Yang-tse-Keang is the route by which they may hope to reach that country. I would call the attention of geographers to this, because here is a navigable stream by which they can travel through the whole of its course of 3000 miles into the border-land between China and India, and thence would be able to proceed to Calcutta. I look forward to the time when we shall have the course of the river open to us all the way up to the mountains of Tibet. Long have we endeavoured to find such a route, and now I think one has been opened by which we can pass from China into India with less difficulty than has hitherto been experienced in the repeated endeavours made by various travellers to enter China from our Indian territories.

Tenth Meeting, April 11th, 1859.

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

PRESENTATIONS.—*The Rev. G. C. Rowden; Colonel W. Pottinger; Captain R. H. Price; Colonel A. Lane Fox; and C. A. Duckett, R.N., and A. H. Macdougall, Esqrs.; were presented upon their election.*

ELECTIONS.—*The Hon. George Barrington; Captain Thomas Birch, R.N.; Rev. James Booth, LL.D.; Viscount Emlyn; the Hon. and Rev. F. S. Grimston; Consul W. T. Pritchard; and Edward C. Buckland; H. D. P. Cunningham, R.N.; Thomas W. L. Mackean; W. Walter Mantell; and William Wheelwright, Esqrs.; were elected Fellows.*

EXHIBITIONS.—A very rare French Atlas of Egypt, published by the Dépôt de la Guerre in 1807, presented by Mr. Robert Stephenson, M.P., F.R.G.S.; and a diagram of Captain Selwyn's apparatus for paying out electric telegraph cables, were exhibited.

In opening the business of the evening the President announced that Lord Stanley, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, had communicated to the Society copies of despatches, which completely set at rest the anxiety so long entertained respecting the fate of Adolphe Schlagintweit, who had proceeded into Turkistan from the Upper Punjab by a route considerably to the west of that followed by his brothers Hermann and Robert, and had advanced far to the north-west of their ultimate station, Elchi, before he met with

his fate. By the return of one of his attendants (Abdullah) to Peshawr, *viâ* Bokhara and Cabul, as well as by a letter of another of them, Mahomed Amir, addressed to Colonel Edwardes, it appears that Adolphe Schlagintweit was well received at Yarkand, though he encountered great difficulties in reaching that city. On moving to the north-west, or towards Kokan, he fell in with a horde of fanatic Mussulmans, at Kashgar (which lies in about 41° N. lat. and $72\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E. long.), and in front of the walls of which place he was beheaded by orders of a ferocious Synd named Wulli Khan. After giving a sketch of the details, the President observed that, as great interest has been taken by all the British authorities in Upper India in the fate of this enterprising explorer—probably the only scientific European who has ever visited this wild and remote region since the days of Marco Polo—so it is hoped that some of his note-books and observations may eventually be recovered from the natives.

The Papers read were :—

1. CAPTAIN H. STRACHEY (Gold Medallist) *on the Death of M. Adolphe Schlagintweit.*

Communicated by the Right Hon. Lord STANLEY, M.P., F.R.G.S., Secretary for India.

Extract of a Military Letter from India, dated 26th January, 1859.

IN continuation of our separate letter, dated 22nd Dec., 1858, we have the honour to submit a farther communication received from the Foreign Department regarding the fate of the late Adolphe Schlagintweit, who, it now appears, was barbarously murdered at Kashgar by a fanatic Synd, named Wulli Khan.

From Lieutenant-Colonel H. B. EDWARDES, C.B., Commissioner and Superintendent at Peshawr Division, to R. TEMPLE, Esq., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Punjab Political Department.

SIR,—I am not aware whether the Chief Commissioner has yet received a reliable account of the circumstances attending the death of M. Adolphe Schlagintweit; but at any rate it will be satisfactory to Government and to his friends to be able to compare the enclosed narratives of the sad event. No. 1 is the verbal statement of a Cashmir follower of M. Schlagintweit, named Abdullah, who arrived here *viâ* Bokhara and Cabul three days ago. No. 2 is the written report of a native of Ladak, named Mahomed Amir, who appears to have been provided by Lord William Hay as a kind of courier to M. Schlagintweit. He writes from Kokan, and Ab-